

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 3, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 146

Introduced by Assembly Member Solorio
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members De Leon and Portantino)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Coto and Saldana)

June 23, 2008

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 146—Relative to the California-Mexico Project.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 146, as amended, Solorio. California-Mexico Project.

This measure would encourage faculty and student exchange between California’s and Mexico’s institutions of higher education through the California-Mexico Project. This measure would request the ~~California Postsecondary Education Commission and the~~ California Research Bureau, *in consultation with the California Postsecondary Education Committee*, to assess and determine the current number of faculty and students *and the scientific research* exchanged between California’s and Mexico’s institutions of higher education.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Student exchange programs not only evoke
- 2 learning, but also perpetuate constructive communication and
- 3 collaborative efforts between different groups; and
- 4 ~~WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project, created by~~
- 5 ~~California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) Professor~~

~~Armando Vazquez-Ramos, which not only involves the exchange of students, but also the exchange of faculty members, is an initiative that could attract more teachers and staff to work at California State Universities; and~~

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the California-Mexico Project, created by California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) Professor Armando Vazquez-Ramos, is efficiently working to exchange students and faculty members between California's and Mexico's institutions of higher education; and

~~WHEREAS, The enhancement of the California-Mexico Project will increase CSULB's status as a competitive, top-tier university; and university, an initiative that could attract more teachers and staff to work at the California State University; and~~

WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project could also be enhanced to provide cooperative research grants, scholarships, internships, and fellowships for California State University (CSU) students and Mexican students who strive to engage and learn together; and within a comprehensive exchange program; and

WHEREAS, Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), United States companies and Mexican businesses are partnering more than ever before; and

WHEREAS, Mexico is California's number one business partner and, according to the United States Department of Commerce, United States exports to Mexico exceeded one hundred thirty-six billion dollars (\$136,000,000,000) in 2007; and

~~WHEREAS, The majority of the 10,000 Mexican students who come to the United States study at private universities rather than attending campuses within the University of California or the CSU systems; and, CSU, or the California Community College system not only results in the loss of revenue for California, but results in the loss of academic trade; and~~

WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project would create a is working to develop solid, long-term relationship with the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and other key institutions under Mexico's National Association of Universities and Higher Education Institutions (ANUIES), leading and will lead to the establishment of joint research ventures and the development of jointly accredited degree programs; and programs, which will attract more Mexican students to study at California's institutions of higher education; and

1 WHEREAS, Positive unification and constructive teamwork
2 between CSULB, UNAM, and ANUIES ~~create~~ *also create* better
3 understanding relating to issues of legal and illegal immigration;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, An influential and constructive relationship with
6 Mexico could allow policy and economic collaborations with other
7 countries; and

8 WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project *at CSULB* could
9 be a model for other top-tier ~~international~~ universities seeking to
10 strengthen and diversify their own student exchange programs;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Student exchange programs, such as the
13 California-Mexico Project at CSULB, will guide and teach a new
14 generation of students who will greatly impact and positively
15 influence California-Mexico relations and policy development;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The collaboration among CSULB, UNAM, and
18 ANUIES will demonstrate once again that California is an
19 educational and intellectual leader that strives to work with the
20 international community; now, therefore, be it

21 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
22 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of the State of California
23 formally endorses the pioneering work of the California-Mexico
24 Project *at CSULB* and duly recognizes the leadership provided by
25 Professor Armando Vazquez-Ramos, CSULB College of Liberal
26 Arts Dean, Gerry Riposa, and CSULB Chicano Studies Department
27 Chair, Luis L. Arroyo, for fostering this initiative to build
28 ~~institutional relations~~ *greater institutional collaboration* between
29 California's and Mexico's colleges and universities; and be it
30 further

31 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California also
32 duly recognizes the leadership provided by UNAM, Los Angeles
33 Director Alfredo Alvarez Cardenas, ANUIES Central Region
34 President Omar Wicab Gutierrez, CSU Bakersfield Professor
35 Gonzalo Santos, and Centro Tlahuica de Lenguas e Intercambio
36 Cultural (CETLALIC) Director Jorge Torres Viveros, for their
37 dedication to and collaboration with the California-Mexico Project;
38 and be it further

39 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California supports
40 the California-Mexico Project's continuing effort to increase the

1 mobility and exchange of faculty and students between California's
2 and Mexico's institutions of higher education; and be it further
3 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California requests
4 ~~the California Postsecondary Education Commission and the~~
5 ~~California Research Bureau to assess and determine the current~~
6 ~~number of faculty and students exchanged between California's~~
7 *the California Research Bureau, in consultation with the California*
8 *Postsecondary Education Committee, to assess the exchange of*
9 *students and faculty and the exchange of scientific research,*
10 *between California's and Mexico's institutions of higher education;*
11 and be it further
12 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California consider
13 policies and programs that will enhance the mobility and exchange
14 of faculty and students between California's and Mexico's
15 institutions of higher education, given the demographic and
16 educational needs of the State of California in the 21st century;
17 and be it further
18 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
19 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.